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correctly it would give an additional 10%. I am suggesting that we strike this particular section of the bill out so that this raising of the minimum of the first three categories of the pay plan from \$2.37 to \$2.60 would not have any affect on the rest of the employees. I would move the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: (no response).

PRESIDENT: Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: I would support Senator Goodrich's amendment. I think, that this is a state employees salary bill that was brought in last year that was debated earlier this session. I guess I would like to explain to the legislature what my intent would be with the bill and why I accept Senator Goodrich's amendment. As he explained the section that he is striking is the one that would put in an across the board increase for all state employees. I am not totally pleased with what we came up with but I think that the recommendation that we have decided on in the budget is the one that we should follow for all employees. So, I support Senator Goodrich striking the increase for all employees. I would also support the amendment that Senator Kelly has to make this only a one year increase. The result of that would be that the bill would then simply mandate that at the entry level for full time state employees would be \$2.60 per hour. Now, that is slightly more than we recommended, or the impact of our increases on the lowest level of state employees. Now, the impact of accepting those amendments would be, that we would have a bill that would raise a little more than 7% of the people at the lowest rung of the ladder in employees salaries. I think that this is something that a number of Senators have expressed concern about those at the very bottom. Senator Goodrich says that when you strike this section the fiscal impact will be minimal so I would support his amendment but I would want to keep the bill alive in the amended form and pass it on to Final Reading.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marvel.

SENATOR MARVEL: Well, I would like to ask either Senator Fowler or Senator Goodrich what we mean by minimal? How much money is 176 going to cost us if we accept these amendments?

SENATOR GOODRICH: If we accept this amendment the section that raises the minimum wage for the first three categories of the pay plan from \$2.37 to \$2.60 per hour will cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000. That is all that would be left in the bill if we adopt this amount...the amendment. Now if we don't adopt this amendment, the part that I am trying to strike out is the part that cost \$13,000,000. Now, we have taken care of the state employees raises in 690 and 691 so we don't need to do it again at a different rate than what we took care of in 690 and 691.

SENATOR MARVEL: Now what does your amendment do?